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20 February 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Ed Braswell, Chief Counsel, Senate
Armed Services Committee

1. I called Ed Braswell, Chief Counsel, Senate Armed Services Committee, and alerted him to the Senate Government Operations Committee hearing discussion of authorization of appropriations. I told Braswell we all have to be mindful of the open budget problem. Braswell agreed but he said the Administration has remained silent as far as a formal communication to the Congress on these subjects is concerned. He said they have to take a position on the budget. I said the way the Committee is taking it now, it would make the Armed Services Committee the new oversight committee responsible for the Agency budget [redacted]

[redacted] Braswell said Jack Marsh, Counsellor to the President, was over saying that they could not live with some of the things coming out of these hearings, but Braswell doubts they are doing anything about it. They expect the White House to take the lead on this. I said we are trying to get Chairman John McClellan, Senate Appropriations Committee, to do something, but it is extremely difficult. I said Senator Edmund Muskie (D., Maine) intends to have the CIA budget come through the Budget Committee, and while we have had strong representations from the Appropriations Committee that we should not have anything to do with the Budget Committees, we are boxed in if Chairman McClellan doesn't do something about it.

2. Braswell asked if we have any paper on what is covered by the law regarding SIGINT. I told him we have such a paper and would send him a copy.

[redacted]

GEORGE L. CARV
Legislative Counsel

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